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Embarking on its 30th year milestone anniversary tour @Riverdance arrives in Philadelphia April 18 – 20, presented by @EnsembleArtsPhilly (Facebook/Instagram). More info at www.ensembleartsphilly.org.

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RIVERDANCE 30 – THE NEW GENERATION
RETURNS TO PHILADELPHIA



PRESENTED BY ENSEMBLE ARTS PHILLY
FOR FOUR PERFORMANCES ONLY!
APRIL 18 – 20, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (March 6, 2025) – Ensemble Arts Philly is thrilled to present the new anniversary production of the international Irish dance phenomenon ***Riverdance*** with ***Riverdance 30 – The New Generation*** at the Miller Theater for four performances only from **Friday, April 18 through Sunday, April 20, 2025**. This special engagement marks the highly anticipated return of the iconic show to Philadelphia for the first time since its 25th Anniversary Tour in 2020.

“*Riverdance*’s 30-year anniversary tour uses dance to highlight the stories of Irish immigrants coming to America, with artistic expression mirroring real life experiences,” said Frances Egler, Vice President of Theatrical Programming and Presentations. “Presenting brand new material, this production is a testament to the production’s widespread appeal and ability to reinvent itself while staying true to its roots.”

Since *Riverdance* first emerged onto the world stage, its fusion of Irish and international dance and music has captured the hearts of millions worldwide. The Grammy Award-winning music and the infectious energy of its mesmerizing choreography and breathtaking performances has left audiences in awe and established *Riverdance* as a global cultural sensation.

To celebrate this incredible 30th year milestone, *Riverdance* will embark on a special anniversary tour, bringing its magic to audiences around the world beginning in January 2025. This spectacular production rejuvenates the much-loved original show with new innovative choreography, costumes, and state of the art lighting, projection and motion graphics. And for the first time *Riverdance* welcomes “The New Generation” of performers, all of whom were not born when the show began 30 years ago.

John McColgan, Director of *Riverdance*, said, “It is both a privilege and a delight to celebrate 30 years of *Riverdance* and the unique journey it has taken us on. In those 30 years the show has transformed from a spectacle into a global cultural phenomenon – continuously evolving yet remaining true to its Irish roots. On this upcoming tour we look forward to welcoming ‘The New Generation’ of artists while paying tribute to the talented performers, creators, dedicated crew, and the millions of fans who have made *Riverdance* a worldwide celebration of music and dance.”

Bill Whelan, Composer of *Riverdance*, said, “It is so gratifying to celebrate 30 years in the life of *Riverdance*. What is even more uplifting is to see the growth in the numbers of young people actively engaging in Irish music and dance since *Riverdance* began life in 1994. This new breed of performers is not only rooted and respectful of their tradition, but also fearless in exploring music and dance forms from all over the world. For me, in a world that seems to grow increasingly narrow and insular, this is a powerful cause for celebration and hope.”

Audiences will enjoy a unique and memorable performance which blends the traditional and the contemporary, showcasing the skill and passion of the world-class dancers, musicians, and singers in the *Riverdance* ensemble.

Composed by Bill Whelan. Produced by Moya Doherty. Directed by John McColgan.

Riverdance 30 – The New Generation marks the first return of *Riverdance* to North America, following the wildly successful three-year 25th Anniversary Show. The 25th Anniversary Show tour included a sold-out, two-week inaugural run at Washington DC’s historic Kennedy Center, a special performance for President Joe Biden and Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, and national television appearances on *The Tonight Show starring Jimmy Fallon*, *Good Morning*

America, *GMA3*, and *Watch What Happens Live*. The 2023 Tour kicked off with a special performance on *America's Got Talent*, seen by over 7 million people across the country.

Riverdance began its journey as the interval act in the 1994 Eurovision Song Contest, produced for television by Moya Doherty. This electrifying and innovative seven-minute dance piece was then developed into a full-length stage show by Doherty, Composer Bill Whelan and Director John McColgan. With its fusion of Irish and International music and dance, the show broke all box office records during its world première run in Dublin in early 1995. When the show transferred to London the reaction was unprecedented. There followed a hugely successful tour starting in New York in March 1996, where eight sold-out shows at Radio City Music Hall heralded the start of more than two decades of touring by *Riverdance* companies throughout North America. Since its inception, *Riverdance* has packed theatres throughout North America, Oceania, Asia, Europe, South Africa, and South America.

Riverdance 30 – The New Generation is designed by lead designer Peter Canning, featuring sets by Alan Farquharson, lighting by Andrew Voller, and video by Cosmo AV, along with costumes by Joan Bergin and sound by Michael O’Gorman.

Tickets

Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999 or online www.ensembleartsphilly.org. In-person ticket sales can be conducted daily from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. at the Academy of Music Box Office, located at 240 S. Broad Street. Orders for groups of 10 or more may be placed by calling 215-790-5883 or emailing groupsales@ensembleartsphilly.org. See www.ensembleartsphilly.org for more information.

Riverdance 30 – The New Generation

Miller Theater

April 18 – 20, 2025

Show Times Vary

ASL and Audio Description performance on Friday, April 18, 2025, at 7:30 PM

Captioning performance on Saturday, April 19, 2025, at 1:30 PM

Riverdance 30 – The New Generation is part of Ensemble Arts Philly’s 2024-25 Family Discovery Series, sponsored by Dietz and Watson.

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